

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A recording medium configured to record information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, wherein said information includes:

a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus as a link destination; and

a designation of a communication method defining communication with said predetermined apparatus via said line;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations,

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes telephone number information configured to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A recording medium according to claim 1 wherein: said information is described in an HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language); and

said telephone number is described along with a telephone-number tag showing that what is described by said telephone number is a telephone line.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A transmission medium configured to transmit information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, wherein said information includes:

a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus as a link destination; and

a designation of a communication method defining communication with said predetermined apparatus via said line;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations,

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, ~~and~~

wherein said information further includes telephone number information configured to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A transmission medium according to claim 4 wherein:
said information is described in an HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language); and
said telephone number is described along with a telephone-number tag showing that what is described by said telephone number is a telephone line.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display;

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus, governed by the communication method, and based on the

telephone number if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said telephone number, ~~and~~

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

e) a confirmation device configured to utilize telephone number information to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A transmission medium according to claim 4 wherein:

said information is described in an HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language);

said telephone number is described along with a telephone number tag showing that what is described by said telephone number is a telephone line; and

a recognition device judges whether or not said telephone number is associated with said predetermined position based on said telephone-number tag.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with said predetermined apparatus via said line;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display;

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the telephone number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said telephone number;

e) a telephone-number selector configured to select one from a plurality of telephone numbers in case plural telephone numbers are associated with said predetermined position, ~~and~~

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

f) a confirmation device configured to utilize telephone number information to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with said predetermined apparatus via said line;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display;

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the telephone number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said telephone number;

e) a number adder configured to add a number required for international communication to a telephone number in case said telephone number is a telephone number of a foreign country, and

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

f) a confirmation device configured to utilize telephone number information to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with said predetermined apparatus via said line;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display;

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the telephone number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said telephone number;

wherein said display also displays an estimated charge for a telephone call to communicate with said predetermined apparatus, ~~and~~

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

e) a confirmation device configured to utilize telephone number information to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with said predetermined apparatus via said line;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display;

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the telephone number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said telephone number;

wherein:

said receiver receives said information transmitted by said information providing apparatus by way of a predetermined network after a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network has been established;

said communication controller establishes a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus after a line connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network has been cut off;

said communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network is reestablished after communication with said predetermined apparatus has been completed, and

said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

e) a confirmation device configured to utilize telephone number information to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with said predetermined apparatus via said line;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display;

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on the telephone number, if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said telephone number;

wherein:

said receiver receives said information transmitted by said information providing apparatus by way of a predetermined network after a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network has been established; and

in case an attempt made by said communication controller to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus after cutting off a line connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network ends in a failure, either an attempt to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus is again made or said communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network is re-established, ~~and~~

said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, bypassing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

e) a confirmation device configured to utilize telephone number information to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): An information processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein, in case said attempt made by said communication controller to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus ends in a failure, said information processing apparatus is capable of selecting either processing to again make an attempt to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined apparatus or processing to re-establish said communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to said predetermined network.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A method for processing incoming information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said method comprising:
receiving and displaying said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, said information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations; establishing a communication link with the predetermined apparatus based on said telephone number if a predetermined position on said displayed information is indicated and said predetermined position is associated with said telephone number, and

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode

connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

confirming, utilizing telephone number information, that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A recording medium configured to store a computer program to be executed by an information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said program comprising:

receiving and displaying said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, said information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations; establishing a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to the predetermined apparatus based on said telephone number if a predetermined position on said displayed information is indicated and said predetermined position is associated with said telephone number,

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode

connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

confirming, utilizing telephone number information, that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A transmission medium configured to transmit a computer program to be executed by an information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said program comprising:

receiving and displaying said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, said information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations; establishing a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to the predetermined apparatus based on said telephone number if a predetermined position on said displayed information is indicated and said predetermined position is associated with said telephone number, and

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

confirming, utilizing telephone number information, that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): An information providing apparatus comprising:
a recording medium configured to store information described in a language usable for describing link destinations; and

a transmitter configured to transmit said information in response to a request, wherein said information stored in said recording medium includes:

- 1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus as said link destination; and
- 2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations, and

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode

connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

a confirmation device configured to utilize telephone number information to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): An information providing apparatus according to Claim 20 wherein:

said information is described in a HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language); and
said telephone number is described along with a telephone number tag indicating that a description thereof is a telephone line.

Claim 22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): An information processing system comprising:

a) an information providing apparatus configured to provide information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said information providing apparatus including:

a recording medium for storing information including (1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus as said link destination and (2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus; wherein the telephone number and the communication

method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations; and

a transmitter configured to transmit said information in response to a request received from an information processing apparatus,

b) said information processing apparatus, configured to receive and process said information, said information processing apparatus including:

a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by said information providing apparatus;

a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display; and

a communication controller configured to establish a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to the predetermined apparatus based on the telephone number if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said telephone number, ~~and~~

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, bypassing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

c) a confirmation device configured to utilize telephone number information to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): An Internet appliance apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said apparatus comprising:

a) a receiver configured to receive said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, the information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations;

b) a display configured to display said information received by said receiver;

c) a command device configured to specify a predetermined position in said information displayed by said display; and

d) a communication controller configured to establish a communication link with the predetermined apparatus, governed by the communication method, and based on the telephone number if said predetermined position specified by said command device is associated with said telephone number, ~~and~~

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

e) a confirmation device configured to utilize telephone number information to confirm that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A Web Browser program to be executed by an information processing apparatus configured to process information described in a language usable for describing link destinations, said program comprising:

receiving and displaying said information transmitted by an information providing apparatus, said information including:

1) a telephone number assigned to a line connected to a predetermined apparatus; and

2) a designation of a communication method defining communication with the predetermined apparatus;

wherein the telephone number and the communication method designation are embedded in text using tags in the language usable for describing link destinations; establishing a communication link connecting said information processing apparatus to the predetermined apparatus based on said telephone number if a predetermined position on said displayed information is indicated and said predetermined position is associated with said telephone number, and

wherein said information is communicated by a predetermined information processing apparatus that has first and second communication modes, the first communication mode connecting to a server apparatus through the internet and the second communication mode

connecting to a telephone apparatus only through a secured public telephone network, by-passing the internet, by using a same telephone line, and

wherein said information further includes communication charge information based on said telephone number; and

confirming, utilizing telephone number information, that a previously selected communication link with said predetermined apparatus shall be established.